

Indiana Roadside Heritage Program

The Indiana Roadside Heritage Program was established in 1999 under the leadership of First Lady Judy O'Bannon and in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Environmental Management and Department of Natural Resources. The goal of the program is to promote the use of native plants in our right of way.

The use of these plants will reduce costs associated with mowing and herbicides, minimize erosion and create a visual interest for the motoring public.

Since the development of this program, seed source sites are being developed at the Winamac and Frankfort Subdistrict offices. Funds to develop the sites were obtained through the Transportation Enhancement Program.

The sites will include several of the native plants that typically are difficult to purchase in quantities necessary for INDOT's landscape projects. These plants include Queen of the Prairie, Rosin Weed, Fire Pink, Prairie Smoke, Compass Plant, Wild Indigo, Wild Senna,

Rattlesnake Master and Spiderwort. When these plants mature they will provide seeds that will establish additional seed sites or will be planted along INDOT's roadsides. The development of the seed source sites is through cooperation with the subdistrict, Crawfordsville and LaPorte districts, central office and the Department of Corrections.

In addition to seed sites, a brochure has been developed to promote the program to the public. These colorful brochures are available at welcome centers and rest areas and were funded by the Transportation Enhancement Program.

A funding category for the use of native plants and grasses is currently being developed. The projects in this new category will be for native and wildflower landscaping projects in right of way that is not part of a construction project and will become a part of the annual call for projects in the Transportation Improvement Program.

Plant Locations Around the State

I-65 and S.R. 43 and 26 – Tippecanoe County
I-65 and Wolcott Rest Area – White County
I-65 and Lebanon Rest Area – Boone County
I-65 and Southport Road – Marion County
I-54 and I-465 South – Marion County
I-65 and County Line Road – Marion County
I-69 and I-465 – Marion County
I-69 and S.R. 238 – Hamilton County
I-70 and S.R. 9 – Hancock County
I-70 and U.S. 40 – Wayne County
I-70 and U.S. 41 – Vigo County
I-70 and Plainfield Rest Area – Hendricks County
I-70 and Greenfield Rest Park – Hancock County
I-74 and Lizton Rest Area – Hendricks County
I-74 and S.R. 44 – Shelby County

I-74 and the Spring Creek Welcome Center – Vermillion County
I-465 and U.S. 31 North – Hamilton County
I-465 and Shadeland – Marion County
S.R. 28 West of Frankfort – Clinton County
U.S. 36 East of Danville – Hendricks County
U.S. 41 Boswell – Benton County
U.S. 52 Fowler – Benton County
U.S. 52 Benton Central High School – Benton County
U.S. 52 and S.R. 443 – Tippecanoe County
S.R. 59 South of Mansfield – Parke County
S.R. 63 and S.R. 234 – Vermillion County
U.S. 231 at South Putnam High School – Putnam County
U.S. 24 East of Kentland – Newton County

Native Plants and Wildflowers

